

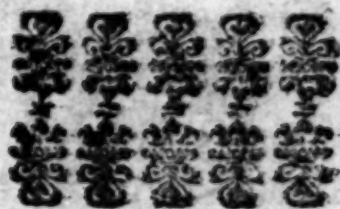
REFLECTIONS

UPON THE

at P. P. London.

EXAMINER'S

Scandalous Peace.



L O N D O N:

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Reflections upon the Examiner's Scan- dalous Peace.



HO the *Examiner* be certainly the most trifling, scurrilous and malicious Writer that ever appear'd, yet in spite of all his gross Untruths and absurd Notions, by assuming to himself an Air of Authority, and speaking in the Person of one employ'd by the Ministry, he sometimes gives a kind of weight to what he says, so as to make Impressions of Terror upon honest Minds.

There is nothing he has said in any of his Papers which has had a greater effect of this kind, than his bold Attack upon both Houses of Parliament, in *Examiner* Numb. 39. April 26. 1711. For tho it be the most senseless Accusation imaginable, as well as the most daring, yet no wonder a plain *Englishman* is frighted to read in Print, (and with the Publisher's Name to the Paper) a downright Accusation of a whole Parliament, for an Ad-

dress presented to the Queen, and receiv'd graciously by her.

The *Examiner* is not precise, as to the time when he charges the Parliament with this Counsel, which he calls *desperate in it self, and unprecedented in the Nature of it*. He only says, he *understands it of an Address made to the Queen about three Years ago, to desire that her M^y would not consent to a Peace without the entire Restitution of Spⁿ*. A Proceeding (as he goes on) which to People abroad must look like the highest Strain of Temerity, Folly, and Gasconade. But we at home, who allow the Promoters of that Advice to be no Fools, can easily comprehend the Depth and Mystery of it. They were assur'd by this means to pin down the War upon us, consequently to encrease their own Power and Wealth, and multiply Difficulties on the Q^{ueen} and Kingdom, till they had fix'd their Party too firmly to be shaken, whenever they shou'd find themselves dispos'd to reverse their Address, and give us leave to wish for a Peace.

How many well-intention'd Minds have been astonish'd at reading this Passage! not so much to consider the insolent manner of treating a whole Parliament, (since the Author openly pretends to a Right of using Parliaments as he pleases when once dissolv'd) nor for the Nonsense of charging a Parliament with denying, that the Events of War lie in God's Hands, (only because they made an humble Request to her Majesty not to consent to any Peace, but such a one as they thought wou'd prove to the Publick Good) but because, when another Parliament is actually sitting and doing their best to find out Funds for carrying on the War, and the
People

People are contentedly submitting to, at least, as great Burdens as were ever before impos'd upon them, and labour'd under as great Difficulties as ever they had to raise the Taxes; the *Examiner* sets the Fault of their Predecessors before them, and gives even this Parliament fair-warning not to presume too far in taking liberty to express what their Wishes are about a Peace, and cautions them to wait for that Hint from superiour Direction.

If the *Examiner* may give such opprobrious Terms to a Parliament for addressing the Queen, that she wou'd insist on the entire Restitution of *Spain* at the Peace; what Crime has he Power to call it in private Persons, so much as to discover what Peace they desire, or to own their own Thoughts, tho but in a Whisper, that all the Treasure spent, all the Blood shed, will turn to little Account to *England*, if a Peace be made without the Restitution of the *Spanish* Monarchy to the House of *Austria*?

It seem'd an inconvenient time for the *Examiner* to begin to teach such a hard Lesson, when the Funds for the next Campaign were actually framing. It is indeed a great while since the War begun, yet not so long that Men have forgot the Causes of it, or the Terms of Peace we have been allow'd to expect till the *Examiner* publish'd this Paper. To allay his Fury, and a little to reassure the Friends of the Alliance, to the Protestant Succession, and to that most contemptible thing, (in the *Examiner's* Opinion) the Trade of *England*, let me beg leave only to make a Recital of some Publick Acts which have pass'd in *England* from the Time of the Most Christian

Christian King's setting his Grandson on the Throne of *Spain*, till the beginning of the *Examiner's* M——y. Such a short Deduction may have two effects: it may call to remembrance the happy Issue we have been hitherto allow'd to expect from this War, and may at the same time let the *Examiner* see, that when he lets fly at random against a certain Address, his rude Treatment does not only reach the late Ministry, but must more directly reach a Person for whom he pretends to have the highest Respect.

As to this purpose, it will be hardly possible to take Rise from a more considerable Epocha, than the ever-memorable Speech of the late King at the Opening of the Parliament, 1701. in which he describ'd the State of *Europe* (if *Spain* were suppos'd to continue under the Power of *France*) in so pathetical and moving a manner, as has left such an Impression upon all good Mens Minds, that the thing needs not to be repeated.

The Lords
Address,
Jan. 2.
1701.

The *House of Peers* made an Address to the King, upon Occasion of that Speech, which has this remarkable Passage:

‘ Your Majesty has so justly represented
‘ the Danger to which *Europe* is expos'd by
‘ the *French* King's placing his Grandson on
‘ the Throne of *Spain*; Your Majesty is so
‘ justly sensible, that under that Pretence he
‘ is become Absolute Master of the whole
‘ *Spanish* Monarchy; and we are all so well
‘ appriz'd of the dangerous Consequence of
‘ this bold Attempt, that we think it most
‘ proper to assure Your Majesty in your own
‘ words, That we are under the highest Im-
‘ patience, that speedy and effectual Measures
‘ shou'd

‘ shou’d be taken against the unbounded Ambition of the *French King*.

‘ And as the placing his Grandson upon the Throne of *Spain* is visibly to the whole World the Cause of all those Dangers mention’d in Your Majesty’s Speech, and of the Breach of the Ballance of Power in *Europe*, which the People of *England* are so deeply engag’d to preserve; so we humbly conceive the Remedy is as apparent as the Disease, and that Your Majesty, your Subjects, and Allies can never be safe and secure till the House of *Austria* be restor’d to their Rights, and the Invader of the *Spanish Monarchy* brought to Reason.’

The *Grand Alliance* concluded between the *Grand Emperor, England, and the States, Sept. 7. Alliance, 1701.* declares expresly, that *The Succession of the whole Spanish Monarchy belong’d to the House of Austria: That the Most Christian King, under Pretence of a Will, had gotten Possession of the whole Dominions of the Spanish Monarchy.* And that Alliance is particularly declar’d to be intended to procure, as to the Emperor, a just and reasonable Satisfaction for his Pretensions to the Succession of the *Spanish Monarchy.*

Her present Majesty in her *Declaration of Declaration of War against France and Spain, publish’d May 4. 1702.* is pleas’d to express her self in this manner.

‘ That her late Brother King *William III.* of Glorious Memory, had (in pursuance of the repeated Advice of Parliaments) made Solemn Treaties and Alliances with several Princees and Potentates for preserving the Liberty and Ballance of *Europe*, and reducing the Exorbitant Power of *France*; which Treaties are grounded on the unjust Usurpations

‘ pations of the *French King*, who keeps possession of a great part of the *Spanish Dominions*, exercising an absolute Authority over all that Monarchy.’

The Queen was pleas’d to communicate to the Parliament this Declaration of War, and the *House of Commons* gave her ‘ their humble Thanks for it, and promis’d to enable her to carry it on to the utmost of their Power.’

Queen’s
Speech,
23 Octob.
1702.

Her Majesty, in her Speech to the Parliament 23d of Octob. 1702. presses ‘ for such Supplies as may be necessary to prosecute the War, where it may be most effectual for dis-appointing the boundless Ambition of *France*.’

The Lords, in their Address upon this occasion, promise the Queen ‘ to assist her to the utmost in the Prosecution of this just and necessary War.’ And the *Commons* assure her Majesty, ‘ They will be always ready to assist her to make good such Alliances, as may enable her to prosecute the War, where it shall most sensibly affect the Enemy, and thereby dis-appoint the boundless Ambition of *France*.’

Queen’s
Message,
Jan. 4.
1703.

The 4th of January 1702. the Queen was pleas’d to lay before the two Houses the *Letters of the States General*, whereby they pray for an Augmentation of Troops in the *Low Countries*.

The next Day the *House of Commons* came to a Vote, ‘ To make good what Negotiations the Queen should enter into for an Increase of Troops, to act in conjunction with the *States General*.’

The House of Lords, the 11th of the same January, humbly advise her Majesty, ‘ That, without any further loss of Time, she would agree to the Proposal of the *States* for such an Augmentation, as may disappoint the great

‘ great and early Preparations of *France*, and
 ‘ effectually support and defend the Common
 ‘ Cause.’

In her Speech, at the beginning, 9th of *Queen's*
Novemb. 1703. her Majesty is pleas'd to be a *Speech,*
 good deal more direct, and to ‘ press the *Nov. 9.*
 ‘ House of Commons for Supplies, not only to *1703.*
 ‘ support all former Engagements, but the
 ‘ Alliance she had lately made with the King
 ‘ of *Portugal*, for recovering the Monarchy
 ‘ of *Spain* from the House of *Bourbon*, and
 ‘ restoring it to the House of *Austria.*’

Both Houses severally present Addresses to
 her the 11th of *Novemb.* upon occasion of this
 Speech, wherein the *Lords* tell her, ‘ They see,
 ‘ with the greatest Satisfaction, the Zeal with
 ‘ which she espous'd the publick Interest,
 ‘ which carry'd her even beyond the Obliga-
 ‘ tions of her Treaties, in defence of the
 ‘ House of *Austria*, against the Usurpations
 ‘ of the House of *Bourbon*, and for the glo-
 ‘ rious Restitution of that Family to the Mo-
 ‘ narchy of *Spain.*’ And the House of Commons
 expresse ‘ their grateful Sense of her earnest En-
 ‘ deavours to bring the War to a glorious and
 ‘ speedy Conclusion, of which she had given
 ‘ so fair a Prospect, by engaging the King of
 ‘ *Portugal* and the Duke of *Savoy* in the Alli-
 ‘ ance, for recovering the Monarchy of *Spain*
 ‘ from the House of *Bourbon*, and restoring it
 ‘ to the House of *Austria.*’

This is the declar'd Design of all the Parties
 to the Grand Alliance; this is what the Queen
 her self declares she makes the War for; this
 is what both Houses of Parliament extol and
 bless her for, the Commons as well as the
 Lords; and this was no ordinary House of
 Commons: But (if the Examiner will allow

any but himself to distinguish of those Assemblies, which have been venerable in all Ages) this was a High-Church Tacking House of Commons.

Queen's
Speech,
Nov. 1.
1705.

The 1st of *Novem.* 1705. the Queen made a Speech to the Parliament, which is certainly worthy to be for ever preserv'd in Letters of Gold. In that she tells them, ' Nothing can be more evident, than that if the *French* King continues Master of the *Spanish* Monarchy, the Ballance of Power in *Europe* is utterly destroy'd, and he will be able in a short time to engross the Trade and Wealth of the World.

' No good *Englishman* could at any time be content to sit still, and acquiesce in such a Prospect. But at this time we have great Grounds to hope that, by the Blessing of God on our Arms, and those of our Allies, a good Foundation is laid for restoring the Monarchy of *Spain* to the House of *Austria*; the Consequences of which will not only be safe and advantageous, but glorious for *England*.'

Lords Ad-
dress.

The House of Lords, in their Address to her Majesty, taking notice that she is pleas'd to tell them, that no Peace can be lasting, safe and honourable, till the *Spanish* Monarchy be fix'd in the House of *Austria*, and *France* reduc'd to such a Degree, that the Ballance of Power in *Europe* be again restor'd, declare themselves ' To concur with her Majesty in these her wise and noble Sentiments, and faithfully promise, that no Dangers shall deter them, nor any Artifices divert them from doing all in their Power, to assist in carrying on the War, till she shall be enabled to procure such a Peace for *Europe*.'

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The House of Commons made an Address to the Queen of the 3d of *Novemb.* 1705. wherein they profess to her, ' That they are fully ' convinc'd the Ballance of Power in *Europe* ' can never be restor'd, till the Monarchy of ' *Spain* be in possession of the House of *Austria.*'

The Queen, the 27th day of the same *Nov.* 27. ^{*Queen's Message,*} by Message, communicated to the two Houses, ' the Success in *Spain*, and the Letters 1705.

' she had receiv'd from thence, and recommended the whole matter to their Considerations, very particularly as to the speediest way for restoring the Monarchy of *Spain* to the House of *Austria.*'

The House of Commons, the same Day, resolv'd upon an Address, ' To assure her Majesty they would do the utmost in their Power, to enable her to prosecute the great Advantages already obtain'd in *Spain.*'

And the 29th of *Novemb.* the Lords agreed to an Address, wherein ' They assure the Queen, they will be wanting in nothing to assist her Majesty in pursuing and perfecting the just and great Design she had undertaken, in conjunction with her Allies, of restoring the *Spanish* Monarchy to the House of *Austria.*'

In the following Year 1706. the Queen, at ^{*Queen's Speech,*} the beginning of the Parliament, took notice, Dec. 3. ' That the Goodness of God had brought the 1706. ' happy Prospect of an honourable and lasting ' Peace so much nearer, that if we were not ' wanting to our selves, we might upon good ' Grounds hope to see such a Ballance of Power establish'd in *Europe*, that it shall be no longer at the Pleasure of one Prince to disturb the Repose, and endanger the Liberties of this part of the World.'

The House of Lords in their Address, made the 4th of the same *Decemb.* do very particularly describe to the Queen such a Peace as all good Men desire. They begin with saying, 'It is such a Peace as may secure to the Queen's Subjects the Protestant Succession, and all the Advantages of Trade and Commerce:' and the very next Article of the Description, is, 'Such a Peace as may restore the whole Monarchy of *Spain* to King *Charles* the Third.'

The Commons, the same 4th of *Decemb.* assure the Queen, 'That no specious Pretences of Peace shall divert their steady Resolution of enabling her to improve, in all Places, the Advantages of the successful Campaign; and that they will give such speedy and effectual Supplies, as (by the Continuance of God's Blessing upon her Majesty's Arms) may establish the Ballance of Power in *Europe*, by a safe, honourable and lasting Peace.'

Queen's
Speech,
Nov. 10.
1707.

At the opening of the first Parliament of *Great Britain*, the Queen enumerated the Principal Events of the preceding Campaign; and in particular was pleas'd to observe, 'That the *French* being driven out of *Italy*, it was thereby become more easy for all the Allies to join their Assistance for enabling the King of *Spain* to recover his Affairs in that Kingdom, and to reduce the whole *Spanish* Monarchy to his Obedience.'

This is the Point which we see still continues to have made the strongest Impression upon her Majesty's Mind; and we shall soon see how heartily her united Subjects concur'd with her.

The Commons of Great-Britain in their Address upon this Speech say, 'That no Disappointment shall discourage them from making

‘ making their utmost Efforts to enable her Majesty, in conjunction with her Allies, to reduce the whole *Spanish* Monarchy to the Obedience of the King of *Spain*.’

And the *House of Lords*, Dec. 22. 1707. agreed to an Address, wherein they acquainted her Majesty, that ‘ They had been always fully persuaded, that nothing cou’d restore a just Ballance of Power in *Europe*, but the reducing the whole *Spanish* Monarchy to the Obedience of the House of *Austria*; and having seen several great Parts of that Monarchy, by the Blessing of God upon the Arms of her Majesty and her Allies, in the Possession of that House, do think it not only seasonable, but necessary at this Juncture, humbly to offer their unanimous Opinion to her Majesty, That no Peace can be honourable or safe for her Majesty or her Allies, if *Spain* or the *West-Indies*, or any part of the *Spanish* Monarchy be suffer’d to remain in the Power of the House of *Bourbon*.’

The *House of Commons* concur’d with the Lords in this Address, and both Houses presented it to the Queen, *Decemb. 23.* who was then pleas’d to declare her self to be fully of the Opinion of her Parliament, ‘ That no Peace can be honourable or safe for us or our Allies, till the entire Monarchy of *Spain* be restor’d to the House of *Austria*.’

It is not possible for the Queen to express her Sentiments in fuller or plainer words, but she did not rest there: for the House of Commons upon *Feb. 5. 1707.* following, presenting to her an Address relating to the Prosecution of the War in *Spain*, she was pleas’d

The
Commons
Address,
Feb. 5.
1707.

pleas'd to take that occasion to tell them,
 ' That the restoring the *Spanish* Monarchy
 ' to the House of *Austria*, and thereby the
 ' Ballance of Power in *Europe*, was the princi-
 ' pal Inducement of the present War; and
 ' she was sensible that on the Success thereof,
 ' not only the Trade and Tranquillity, but
 ' the Security of *Great-Britain*, (subject to
 ' the Divine Providence) do in great measure
 ' depend: and therefore her Majesty can ne-
 ' ver be wanting to continue her utmost
 ' Endeavours (as the Commons have desir'd)
 ' to prosecute with Vigour and Effect a War
 ' of such Nature and Consequence, or to excite
 ' her Allies upon all Occasions to concur with
 ' her Majesty's Endeavours in that behalf.'

What does this daring Writer say to this
 Opinion of the Queen, this Resolution thus
 declar'd?

Queen's
Message,
Mar. 4.
1707.

The Queen was pleas'd to communicate to
 her Parliament, by a Message, *March 4. 1707.*
 the Advices she had receiv'd of the Pretender's
 Purpose to invade her Dominions. *Both Hou-*
ses join'd in an Address, in which after their
 Return of humble Thanks for the Communi-
 cation of the Intelligence, and declaring their
 Concern for the Safety of her Person, and
 their Resolution to stand by her in Mainte-
 nance of her undoubted Right, and other
 warm Expressions of Duty, they add, ' That
 ' they readily embrace that Opportunity to
 ' shew to the Queen and to the whole World,
 ' that no Attempts of that kind shall deter
 ' them from supporting her in a vigorous
 ' Prosecution of the present War against
 ' *France*, till the Monarchy of *Spain* be re-
 ' duc'd to the House of *Austria*.'

In the Year 1708. the Queen's deep Sorrow for the unspeakable Loss of the Prince did not suffer her to be present *Novemb. 15.* at the opening of the Parliament; but *the Lords* in their Address of the 19th, are not unmindful of her frequent Royal Admonitions, but assure her Majesty, ' They will give ' their utmost Assistance in every thing for ' the prosecuting this just and necessary War; ' being more and more convinc'd, that no ' Peace can be safe and honourable until the ' whole Monarchy of *Spain* be restor'd to the ' House of *Austria*.'

And the *House of Commons* by their Address, which follow'd some few Days after, told her Majesty, ' They were determin'd ' to give such Supplies as may be most effectual, for reducing the Power of the Common Enemy, and forcing him to accept ' such a Peace as her Majesty, in conjunction ' with her Allies, shall think honourable and ' lasting.'

What that Peace was, she had told them so often, that it was impossible for them to mistake.

On *March 4.* 1708. both Houses of Parliament present an Address to her Majesty, in which they beg her ' To take care at the ' Conclusion of the War, to establish a firm ' Friendship among all the Allies; that the ' *French King* be oblig'd to own her Title; ' and the Protestant Succession, as establish'd ' by the Laws of *Great-Britain*; and that the ' Allies be engag'd to become Guarantees of ' the same; that the Pretender be remov'd ' out of the *French Dominions*, and that the ' Fortifications and Harbour of *Dunkirk* be ' demolish'd and destroy'd.'

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The Answer *the Queen* was pleas'd to make to her Parliament was very gracious: She declar'd, ' She was of the same Opinion ' with her two Houses of Parliament, in the ' several Particulars of that Address (nor does she stop there, but is pleas'd to add) ' as I have also been in all the other which they ' have made to me, upon the same Subject. And ' I assure you no Care shall be wanting on ' my part to attain the Ends you have desir'd.'

*Queen's
Speech,
Nov. 15.
1709.*

The *Queen*, in her Speech from the Throne, *Novemb. 15. 1709.* tells her Parliament, that ' It is a great Satisfaction to her, that she ' can give them so good an Account of the ' Progress of the War since the last Session of ' Parliament; and desires their Aid to put ' the last hand to the great Work of reducing the Exorbitant and Oppressive Power ' which has so long threaten'd the Liberties ' of Europe.'

The *House of Commons* assure her, ' That ' they will, by speedy and effectual Supplies, ' enable her to dispatch the Supplies for carrying on the War in such a manner, as ' shall by God's Blessing oblige the Common ' Enemy to accept a Peace upon such Terms, ' as shall be a lasting Security to her and her ' Allies.

The *Lords* humbly thank her Majesty ' for ' proceeding so wisely and steddily in the first ' Steps of the Treaty, and congratulate her ' upon the glorious and successful Prosecution of the War, as soon as the Insincerity ' of the Enemy appear'd: and they assure ' her, That they will to the utmost of their ' Power, support her to carry on the War, ' till

'till *France* is compel'd to submit to the Terms of a safe and lasting Peace.'

This is a short Account of some publick authentick Acts, which have pass'd from the time *England* enter'd into the War, until the sitting down of the present Parliament, without any Variation from the Terms of the Originals. I shall not venture to proceed further, because the *Examiner* pretends to have a great Interest in the present Parliament, and may perhaps judg himself to be solely qualify'd for their Historian.

But as I have dispatch'd, what I thought the *Examiner* had made necessary to be recapitulated, so I take leave to make some few Observations thereupon.

The first shall be, That the *Examiner* is resolv'd to continue so faithful to his principal Quality of speaking Untruths, that he has industriously taken care not to recite truly the very Address he makes it his Business to rail at: for whoever observes the several Addresses which have been made, will see there is not one of them conceiv'd in the Terms he sets down in his Paper. The Style the Parliament uses, is not to desire the Queen, that she wou'd not consent to a Peace without the entire Restitution of *Spain*, but that in their Opinion, no Peace can be safe or honourable, unless the whole *Spanish* Monarchy be restor'd. And the Queen is pleas'd to declare, more than once, that she is of the same Opinion. Let the *Examiner* speak plain, Where is the Temerity, Folly, and Gasconade of this? Does this way of expressing themselves intitle him, upon that account, to call in question their Belief of a God? at
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the same time, when he dares not deny, but that out of another Mouth, the very same Words become a Person of the most exemplary Piety.

The avow'd Design of the *Examiner* is, to put the worst Construction upon every thing that happen'd during the late Ministry. This he never fails to do, without regard to Truth or Shame. He has not the least Concern for Probability, so the Charge be black enough; tho it be impossible to make any more Connexion between the Accusation and any thing done by the late Ministry, than there was between Cardinal *Mazarine's* Ministry, and the Stumbling of the *Partisan's* Horse, for which he did so heartily devote the Cardinal to the Devil.

This Address of the Parliament gave the *Examiner* the fairest Opportunity to charge the late Ministry, as the most Profligate of Men, as Men prepar'd to sell the whole Alliance to *France* upon any Bargain, for their private Advantage, in the Opinion of the Parliament themselves: and therefore the two Houses would not rise without letting the Ministers know their Sense plainly, as to the Peace they expected, and what was to be expected by them if they shou'd dare to play Tricks upon such an important Point. This wou'd have been a heavy Scandal indeed, and it wou'd have been very like the *Examiner*: and a willing Tory might have fancy'd there had been some Affinity between the Slander and the meaning of the Address. But when the *Examiner* is pleas'd to give it quite another Turn, and to talk of a Chimerical Project of the late Ministry to perpetuate their

their Power by procuring such an Address, of which no Meaning can be apprehended ; he has thereby given me an occasion to make an Observation of quite another kind, That as heartily as he hates the late Ministry, there is something that he and his Friends hate yet worse, which is, That we should be too peremptory in insisting upon Terms of Peace. The *Examiner* was not sure, but even this Parliament, e'er they were aware, out of Hopes of Popularity, (for which perhaps they have occasion) shou'd venture upon some Vote, like their Predecessors, to shew their Zeal for a safe and honourable Peace, and thereby might interfere with some present Purposes, and frighten some body who might be meditating to patch up a fallacious Peace. Upon such weighty Reasons the *Examiner* might think it worth while, rather to lose the fairest Opportunity of flandering the Ruin'd Party, than not to give a necessary Warning to the *Orator* to be cautious how they pretended to be talking of the Terms of Peace. But let us not forget how the last War ended, and how it came to end no better. We saw our own Army disbanded, and we were pleas'd at it ; but at the same time, without being concern'd, we saw the *French* buy up our Horses and Arms at any Rate. In effect, they declar'd, they were preparing to begin another War, and we saw the Interval of Peace was very short. Some have not quite forgot the loud Outcries of those who did publish industriously, that the late King's Love of Arbitrary Power made him for Armies, but that the Nation was Bankrupt, and could not carry on the

War one other Year; and yet those very Men have seen the Nation at more than twice the Expence of that whole War in a Second, which follow'd immediately, and which they themselves began. Therefore since Experience is a Mistress capable of teaching down-right Fools, it behoves us all to think a little seriously of the Manner how we end the present War, lest we find a certain and sudden Ruin by a Third.

I cannot but think it wou'd be very necessary for the *Examiner* to let us know the time when it first began to be presumptuous and criminal for a Parliament to make an Address to the Queen, that she wou'd not consent to a Peace that shou'd leave *Spain* in the Hands of the House of *Bourbon*; and for what Reasons it became such an Offence; lest after a Peace made upon other Terms, we should find our selves, notwithstanding the Expence of so many Millions, upon a fair Comparison, in a much worse Condition than we were left by the once so much exploded Treaty of Partition. By the several *Addresses*, *Answers*, and *Speeches*, which I have set down in this short Paper; it is plain, that till very lately we had not the least Discouragement to expect the entire Restitution of the whole *Spanish* Monarchy to the House of *Austria*. There was scarce one Speech, but invited us to it; there was scarce an Address but shew'd a joyful Consent to that Encouragement, and hardly an Answer to any of those Addresses but expres'd the highest Satisfaction in her Majesty to find her People continue so dispos'd, and so well resolv'd. Surely there never was a more reasonable Curiosity than
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to desire to know this critical time, and to be shew'd the Reasons of so great an Alteration. Without a precise and clear Information thereof, we may innocently fall under gross Mistakes, and behave our selves counter to the great Purposes of those who have our Fate in their Hands.

Without being let into the Secret, it will be hard to find out good Reasons why the Allies must dwindle as to the Terms of Peace. All our Allies continue firm. The War has, by God's Goodness, been carry'd on with uninterrupted as well as wonderful Success. *Italy* is clear'd of the *French* Forces; *Sicily* continues in the Power of *France*, only because the Maritime Powers have not been at leisure to send a small Force to demand it. The Emperor's Death has yet had no ill Effect. The Electors manifest a hopeful Unanimity as to the Choice of an Emperor. The Clouds that have so long hung over *Hungary*, are in great measure dissipated; and those which look'd so black towards *Turky* and *Pomerania*, appear nothing so terrible as they once did. The Succours and Supplies are landed at *Barcelona*; and *Villars* is not vainer than in former Years, nor has (by any thing that appears) the least ground to be so. May we not then ask the *Examiner*, why he will not allow us to insist upon as good Terms of Peace as ever, especially when he calls to mind how happy he assures us we are at this Juncture at Home in a wise, honest and able Ministry; when a Landed, Loyal, and Freely chosen Parliament have met, and have charg'd their Country with as great Taxes for the War as any that have gone before them; when he himself boasts that all
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our Debts are fully provided for, and that our Credit is entirely restor'd ?

Therefore let the *Examiner* be out of Humour, and bounce as he pleases against a Parliament that once did sit and is dissolv'd : since he cannot deny that he himself has stated our Case to be as I have repeated it, unless he will tell us, in plain Words, for what Reasons, and at what Time, it became unlawful ; I cannot but hope that all true *Britons* will continue to pray for such a Peace as may be safe and honourable to us and our Allies, which none can be (as we are assur'd in the Words of her Sacred Majesty, in her Gracious Answer to the Address of her Parliament the 23d of *Decemb.* 1707) till the entire Monarchy of *Spain* be restor'd to the House of *Austria*.



FINIS.